

54

Undated Notes on Art Education - possibly for talk to staff at the Art Association of Montreal, circa 1937-42, original in own hand

As we start on our journey of Life we carry a basket to be filled - what we shall report of the journey will depend upon what we have put into our basket - What we gather & how we enrich ourselves depends mainly upon what we ourselves are able to reach - we will meet plenty of variety - riches we will want - the dross of gold - will weigh us down so that the burden becomes unbearable - other riches are there for us to choose from - the graces & joy of living - the wealth of beauty -

"The enriching habit of mind is wonder" The man taught to enjoy is actively testing his world all the time - he is finding the significant & rejoicing in it & rejecting the poor - Have we lost the time to think to observe to enjoy in quietness - if so anything that can teach us how to spend time on our spirit is to be welcomed - The study of Art is the solution -

To review the History of Art Ed. - when was it actually introduced to the School as a subj. -

In the time of the Tudors - young ladies were set to embroider flowers of fair design - & water colour painting was indulged in by the privileged few.

1) Practical Vision -

Locates objects of everyday life

2) Curious Vision -

Analytical Vision - it is curious to note that this type of vision while it sees with great accuracy certain

scientific facts it may remain perfectly blind to the pattern relation of the units observed.

### 3) Imaginative or Reflective Vision -

If after the performance of a fine play you go home & call back in your "mind's eye" the performance you have enjoyed - or you relive any experience in imaginative pictures - It is the 3rd step beyond the practical & the first which in itself is a passport allowing its possessor to cross the borders of the Art world -

### 4) Pure Vision -

This is the type which is undeveloped universally & with which we are here chiefly concerned - It sees objects as ends in themselves - disconnecting them from all practical human associations - If one possessed with this type of vision looks at a chair he does not look at it as something to sit on - he observes it with wonder - He sees its forms, lines, proportion. He sees patterns which the accidental lighting makes upon it at the moment he examines it as one marvelling at a new discovery - for though he has seen perhaps this particular chair hundreds of times, he has never before seen it as it now appears. Never before has it been in exactly the same place on the floor - or been turned exactly the same way, with exactly the same lighting on it - & if it be moved one inch.

Work means nothing to me unless done with every intellectual